

REMARKS

Entry of this Amendment and reconsideration are respectfully requested in view of the amendments made to the claims and for the remarks made herein.

Claims 5 and 13-21 are pending and stand rejected. Claim 5, 13, 18, and 21 have been amended. Claim 16 has been cancelled.

Claims 5, 13, 15-18 and 20 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Koyama (USP no. 6,034,737).

In reply to the applicant's arguments, the instant Office Action further states that "Koyama discloses in col. 7, lines 11-20, From the above passage it is noted that the claimed '... said control and switching means is coupled to said display drives and is further operable to selectively disable video signal on said display screen' is anticipated by the switch 22 of Koyama because the switch 22 would be able to disable the video signal of other channel on said display. Even if arguendo that the switch 22 of Koyama can not anticipated [sic] the claimed '... said control and switching means is coupled to said display drives and is further operable to selectively disable video signal on said display screen', the 'power off' switch of Koyama would anticipates [sic] the above claimed feature because the 'power off' switch will disable the video signal on the display screen."

Applicant respectfully disagrees with and explicitly traverses the reason for rejecting the claims. However, in the interest of advancing the prosecution in this matter, the independent claims have been amended to recite that an input for an audio only signal is available and that the switch and control means disables the control to the display when the audio only signal is detected. No new matter has been added.

Support for the amendment may be found at least on page 7, lines 11-19, which state, "[f]rom the foregoing, it will be seen that the television acts as centre speaker only when the receiver is producing ... audio on behalf of the television, and the particularly configured link lead 48 has been installed. In this case, the television treats the input at 58 as the source of audio,

even though the video is coming from a different source (i.e., tuner 60). In the case that a purely audio source is selected by the user (e.g., AUD 40; Fig. 1), the television will suppress or black mute any video signal from tuner 60 to the display 62."

As the Koyama reference was cited in the prior Office Action, applicant's response to the rejection of the claims in the prior Office Action are applicable to the rejection of the claims in the instant Office Action, and are reasserted, as if in full, herein.

Notwithstanding, the arguments made in response to the rejection of the claims in the prior Office Action, Koyama provides no teaching for receiving separate audio only signals and when such signals are detected the controlling circuit is used to disable the display.

It is well recognized that to constitute a rejection pursuant to 35 USC §102, i.e., anticipation, all material elements recited in a claim must be found in one unit of prior art.

Koyama cannot be said to anticipate the present invention, because Koyama fails to disclose each and every element recited. As shown, Koyama fails to provide for an input for receiving an audio only signal and disabling the display when such a signal is detected.

At least for this reason, applicant submits that the rejection of the claim has been overcome and can no longer be sustained. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of the claim.

With regard to the remaining independent claims, these claims recite subject matter similar to that recited in claim 1 and were rejected for the same reason used in rejecting claim 1. Thus, for the amendments made to these claims, which are similar to the amendments made with regard to claim 1 and for the remarks made in response to the rejection of claim 1, which are also applicable in response to the rejection of these claims, and reasserted, as if in full, herein, applicant submits that the reason for rejecting these claims have been overcome and the rejection can no longer be sustained. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of the claims.

With regard the remaining claims these claims ultimately depend from the independent claims, which have been shown to contain subject matter not disclosed by, and, hence, allowable over, the reference cited. Accordingly, these claims are also allowable by virtue of their dependency from an allowable base claim.

Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of the claims.

Claims 14, 19 and 21 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koyama in view of Oh (USP no. 6,545,699).

The aforementioned claims depend from the independent claims, which have been shown to contain subject matter not disclosed by Koyama. Contrary to the statements made in the Office Action, the cited references fail to provide any teaching or suggestion to correct the deficiency found to exist in the primary reference.

Hence, even if there were some motivation to combine the teachings of all of the cited references, the combined device fails to teach all the features recited in the independent claims, and consequently, the aforementioned dependent claims.

Accordingly, the invention recited in the aforementioned claims is not rendered obvious by the teachings of the cited references. For at least this reason applicant submits that the reason for the rejection has been overcome and respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

For all the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all the present claims are patentable in view of the cited references. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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